

Message Text

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TAGS: USIRJC, EIND, ETRD, XM, IR, US

TEHRAN ECONOMY AND FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING:

POSSIBILITIES FOR U.S.-IRANIAN TRIANGULAR INVESTMENTS IN
LATIN AMERICA

INFO FOR USDOC, TREASURY.

PLEASE PASS DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY BILLER SAT.
MORNING.

TEXT FOLLOWS OF ARA (ROGERS-BILLER) MEMORANDUM OF
FEBRUARY 5 EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR TREASURY POSITION
PAPER ON TRIANGULAR INVESTMENT AND PROPOSING LATIN
AMERICA AS POSSIBLE AREA FOR NEW INVESTMENT:

BEGIN TEXT

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1. ARA WOULD LIKE TO INDICATE ITS SUPPORT FOR THE POSITION PAPER ON "TRIANGULAR INVESTMENT" PREPARED BY TREASURY (OMEA) FOR THE FEBRUARY 9-10 MEETING IN TEHRAN OF THE ECONOMY AND FINANCE COMMITTEE OF THE IRAN-U.S. JOINT COMMITTEE, AND ENDORSE THE PAPER'S THREE KEY POINTS: (A) TRIPARTITE INVESTMENT IS AN EXCELLENT METHOD OF PROVIDING SUBSTANTIAL BENEFITS TO DEVELOPING COUNTRIES IN WAYS THAT WILL ALSO SERVE THE ECONOMIC

AND POLITICAL OBJECTIVES OF BOTH IRAN AND THE UNITED STATES; (B) THE U.S. GOVERNMENT CAN PLAY A USEFUL ROLE IN FORMULATING AND IMPLEMENTING SUCH PROJECTS; AND (C) THE COMING MEETING IN TEHRAN SHOULD CONSIDER MODALITIES FOR FORMULATING AND IMPLEMENTING SUCH PROJECTS.

2. I WOULD LIKE TO ADD A FOURTH POINT: LATIN AMERICA SHOULD BE INCLUDED AS A REGION IN WHICH IRANIAN-U.S. TRIANGULAR INVESTMENTS COULD BE EFFECTED WITH IMPORTANT BENEFITS FOR ALL THREE PARTIES.

3. IN THIS CONNECTION IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT IN A RECENT DISCUSSION BETWEEN THE SHAH AND SENATOR PERCY (AS REPORTED IN TEHRAN 91), THE SHAH EXPRESSED WILLINGNESS TO CONSIDER TRIANGULAR INVESTMENT PROJECTS IN VIRTUALLY ANY COUNTRY THAT IS BEING SEVERELY AFFECTED BY THE HIGH PRICE OF PETROLEUM, AND HE SPECIFICALLY AGREED THAT JAMAICA COULD BE ONE SUCH CANDIDATE FOR CONSIDERATION.

4. IN THE COMING MEETING IN TEHRAN, THE U.S. PARTICIPANTS MIGHT WISH TO POINT OUT THAT:

A) THERE ARE SEVERAL LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRIES THAT ARE SUFFERING SEVERE FINANCIAL BURDENS AS A RESULT OF PETROLEUM PRICES, E.G.: COSTA RICA; HAITI; HONDURAS; URUGUAY; CHILE.

B) THE USG BELIEVES THAT THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF THESE AND OTHER COUNTRIES OF LATIN AMERICA WOULD HELP IMPORTANTLY TO ENSURE THE GROWTH OF TRADE IN BOTH LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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DIRECTIONS BETWEEN THEM AND IRAN, AS WELL AS BETWEEN THEM AND THE UNITED STATES.

C) SOME OF THE PROSPECTIVE TRIANGULAR PROJECTS WOULD LEAD DIRECTLY TO IMPROVED SOURCES OF RAW MATERIALS, FOR IRAN AS WELL AS FOR THE UNITED STATES.

D) IF THE GOI WILL SPECIFY THE CRITERIA IT WISHED TO

APPLY IN DECIDING ON THE UNDERTAKING OF TRIANGULAR
INVESTMENT PROJECTS IN LATIN AMERICA, THE DEPARTMENT
OF STATE IN COORDINATION WITH COMMERCE WOULD PROCEED
PROMPTLY TO IDENTIFY PROSPECTIVE PROJECTS THAT
APPEAR TO MEET THE CRITERIA AND WOULD PRESENT THESE
FOR THE GOI'S CONSIDERATION. THE DEPARTMENT WOULD ALSO
SEEK TO ENLIST THE PARTICIPATION OF SUITABLE UNITED
STATES COMPANIES IN SUCH PROJECTS. END TEXT. KISSINGER

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